

RADIO TV REPORTS, INC.

4701 WILLARD AVENUE, CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND 20015 656-4068

STAT

FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM	CBS Evening News	STATION	WDVM TV CBS Network
DATE	April 29, 1980	7:00 PM	CITY Washington, DC
SUBJECT	Secretary Brown Denies Existence of Memo		

IKE PAPPAS: Here at the Pentagon, meanwhile, officials vigorously denied allegations that the administration had cut back on the number of helicopters and other equipment recommended by the military for the rescue.

Defense Secretary Harold Brown said everything the rescue team asked for it got without question.

Brown called "completely untrue" reports that the on-the-scene commander, Colonel Charles Beckwith fought with his superiors to continue the mission but was overruled. All of the commanders, said Brown, completely agreed with the decision to abort the mission.

Brown also denied a report that the rescue was ordered despite a CIA memo which estimated that perhaps 60 percent of the hostages might be killed. No such memo exists, according to Brown.